



REPORT OF MEETING

Subject: Report of Meeting - Haverhill 16238 – Mill Street over Ammonoosuc Rail Trail

Meeting Date: November 28, 2016

Location: Haverhill Town Offices, 2975 Dartmouth College Highway, Haverhill, NH 03774

Attendance: Wayne Fortier, Selectboard Chair
Thomas Friel, Selectman
Darwin Clogston, Selectman
Michael Bonanno, Selectman
Chris Luurtsema, Selectman
Jo Lacaillade, Haverhill Town Manager
Stuart McDanolds, Haverhill Road Agent

Additional Members of the Haverhill Community

Bob Landry, NHDOT
Ron Kleiner, NHDOT
Tom Levins, GM2 Associates, Inc.

The purpose of this meeting was to present an overview of the project to the new Town Selectmen and Town Manager and to get their input on the proposed bridge replacement. The Department described the bridge type and the layout and pointed out the required easements on the School District property to construct the proposed guardrail. All remaining work will be done within the ROW, and will not require easements. The Department also wanted to ensure that the Selectman were aware that the Town will be required to assume ownership of the bridge after construction and will be required to maintain the structure in the future. The project will require mitigation for the loss of the historic bridge resource.

The Selectmen had some questions and concerns which are addressed below:

1. NHDOT will be responsible for all costs for construction.
2. The proposed bridge will be designed for current highway loading and will meet the requirements of the Town, School, Fire, and Police.
3. The estimated construction cost is between \$1 and \$1.5 million.
4. Life expectancy of proposed bridge is 75-100 years.
5. This type of structure with 7-10 feet of fill over the top will require very little maintenance.
6. The proposed bridge will require additional pavement maintenance in the area that the timber deck of the existing bridge resides. The likely maintenance would be crack seal in 5 years and new wearing course in 15 years.
7. Part of the mitigation involves the granite blocks which make up part of the existing bridge foundation. The Town requested that they be transported to the Railroad Park not far away for storage and potential use at a later date.



8. The Selectmen would like more time to review the draft contract for ownership of the bridge. The Town expects that a resolution on the Contract can be finalized in early June 2017.
9. The Town would like an updated traffic count to be prepared. A counter tube can be placed in Spring 2017 for traffic count.
10. The Town requested that another Public Informational Meeting be scheduled at the end of March 2017 to get public comments since it has been almost 3 years since last public meeting.
11. One selectman would like to see existing bridge removed without constructing a new bridge. There are some discussions regarding closing the school adjacent to the bridge and merging with another school. He feels there would be no need for bridge in that case and doesn't want the Town to bear the maintenance costs for the new bridge for the small amount of traffic that would exist if the school was no longer in service.
12. Another selectman had some concerns about the Town bearing the maintenance requirements. He, along with the remaining three selectmen, are in favor of moving forward with the proposed bridge replacement project to the March 2017 Public Informational Meeting with some revisions to the bridge ownership contract. A final decision on the direction for the project would be made shortly after the public meeting.